

CLAIM AMENDMENTS

1 - 3. (canceled)

1 4. (new) A method of stabilizing pile carpet, tufted
2 carpet or plush carpet having a backing support layer in which
3 pile-forming yarns are anchored by needling to project to a front
4 visible side whose structure and quality must not be modified, the
5 method comprising the steps of sequentially:

6 applying to a back face of the backing support layer and
7 the yarns exposed there an intermediate layer formed by a hot-melt
8 powder, short-staple fusible fibers or a hot-melt film;

9 hydrodynamically needling the intermediate layer into the
10 backing support from the back side to integrate the intermediate
11 layer with the backing layer and yarns there;

12 heat-treating the needled intermediate layer from the
13 back side to fuse the intermediate layer into the backing layer and
14 yarns exposed there;

15 covering the heat-treated intermediate layer with a
16 nonwoven; and

17 hydrodynamically needling the nonwoven against the heat-
18 treated intermediate layer to anchor the nonwoven on the backing
19 support layer.

1 5. (new) A pile carpet made by the steps of
2 sequentially:
3 applying to a back face of the backing support layer and
4 the yarns exposed there an intermediate layer formed by a hot-melt
5 powder, short-staple fusible fibers or a hot-melt film;
6 hydrodynamically needling the intermediate layer into the
7 backing support from the back side to integrate the intermediate
8 layer with the backing layer and yarns there;
9 heat-treating the needled intermediate layer from the
10 back side to fuse the intermediate layer into the backing layer and
11 yarns exposed there;
12 covering the heat-treated intermediate layer with a
13 nonwoven; and
14 hydrodynamically needling the nonwoven against the heat-
15 treated intermediate layer to anchor the nonwoven on the backing
16 support layer.